

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

NEW YORK BUSINESS CORPORATIONS.

A TREATISE ON THE NEW YORK MANUFACTURING CORPORATION ACT OF 1848, AND THE BUSINESS INCORPORATION ACT OF 1875; WITH FORMS AND BY-LAWS. By Edward W. Southworth and Dwight Arden Jones. Second Edition. pp. xxii, 350. New York: Baker, Vorlich & Co.

When the act was passed, a few years ago, requiring all corporations formed under New York laws to pay to the state a tax of 1 per cent of their capital stock for the privilege of incorporation, it was thought by many that the effect would be to drive the organizers of corporations to other States where such laws have not yet been enacted. Some such effect appears for a time to have resulted, but the liberality of the New York statutes, both as to manufacturing and business corporations, and the construction put upon them by the courts, have satisfied capitalists and other promoters of corporate interests that such enterprises as have their head-quarters in this State cannot with such advantage be incorporated elsewhere. While, therefore, the number of corporations formed in New York fell off immediately after the passage of the tax act, there is now nothing to indicate that it has any such effect. The act has, however, produced two desirable results: one is that the tax operates to prevent the capitalization of corporations at inflated amounts for speculative purposes, and the other is that the state derives a revenue of about \$200,000 a year from this source.

Much the largest part of this revenue comes from the tax imposed for the privilege of forming corporations under the general act of 1848, commonly known as the "Manufacturing Corporation Act," and the "Business Corporation Act" of 1875. There are several excellent treatises upon the law of corporations generally and several others relating to railroad corporations alone. But we believe that the above work of Messrs. Southworth and Jones is the only complete treatise upon the General Corporation acts of 1848 and 1875. Their last edition was published six years ago. It has since been the constant guide of the practitioner in the formation of such corporations, and few faults or defects have been developed. The two acts were given in full with comments and citations of decisions respecting each section. The necessary forms also to be used for incorporation and other purposes were added.

But there have been important amendments to those statutes during the past six years, and of still more consequence to those interested in such corporations have been the many decisions of the courts in construing these laws. Hence, a new edition of the work has become necessary and is just issued. It will prove of value not alone to the practising corporation lawyer, but to many business men as well. The obligations, responsibilities and rights of stockholders and trustees in such institutions are not as generally understood as they might or ought to be. They are here presented in a form so clear and free from technicalities that the layman can as easily understand them as the lawyer.

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